3.5 2004 Survey and New Sites

During the summer of 2004, two archaeological survey crews (each comprised of four archaeologists) employed by CEMML conducted a phase 1 pedestrian survey for one major range development project (BAX), as well as several smaller projects for the USAG-AK on lands at Fort Wainwright's DTA.

Survey and Field Methods

Standard pedestrian survey methods were employed, with parallel transects spaced at a maximum of 20m in all areas that were considered not too wet to contain cultural material. Transect survey units were partitioned according to existing roads and trails where possible. When existing roads did not provide for practical unit boundaries, a one square kilometer work unit was defined.

Systematic subsurface shovel testing was undertaken in areas considered to have high probability for containing archaeological sites. Random subsurface shovel testing took place in areas considered to have low probability. Areas that were considered to have high probability included but were not limited to: landforms affording a view of surrounding terrain; lake margins; ridgelines; terrace edges; hilltops; benches adjacent to steeper slopes and bluffs above Jarvis Creek. Shovel tests were typically 30cm in diameter and excavated into glacial till, consolidated outwash, or permafrost. All soil removed was screened through ¼in. hardware cloth.

Figure 86. Archaeologist testing the project area

Cultural Resources

2,610 acres were archaeologically surveyed on the DTA during the 2004 summer field season, and a total of 10 new archaeological sites were identified. One additional (XMH-01168) site was located on Fort Greely, Space Missile Defense Command.

The following is a description of eight of the new sites recorded in 2004. Sites XMH-01171 and XMH-01172 are described in Section 3.3 of this report.

Table 9. Archaeological Sites Located in 2004

Site #	Project	Easting	Northing	NRHP Status
XMH-01168	SMDC Gravel			Not evaluated
XMH-01169	2004 Survey			Not evaluated

XMH-01170	2004 Survey			Not evaluated
XMH-01171	12 mile crossing			Eligible
XMH-01172	12 mile crossing/BAX			Not Eligible
XMH-01173	BAX 2004 Survey			Not evaluated
XMH-01174	BAX 2004 Survey			Not evaluated
XMH-01175	BAX 2004 Survey			Not evaluated
XMH-01176	BAX 2004 Survey			Not evaluated
XMH-01177	2004 Survey			Not evaluated
XMH-01178	2004 Survey			Not evaluated

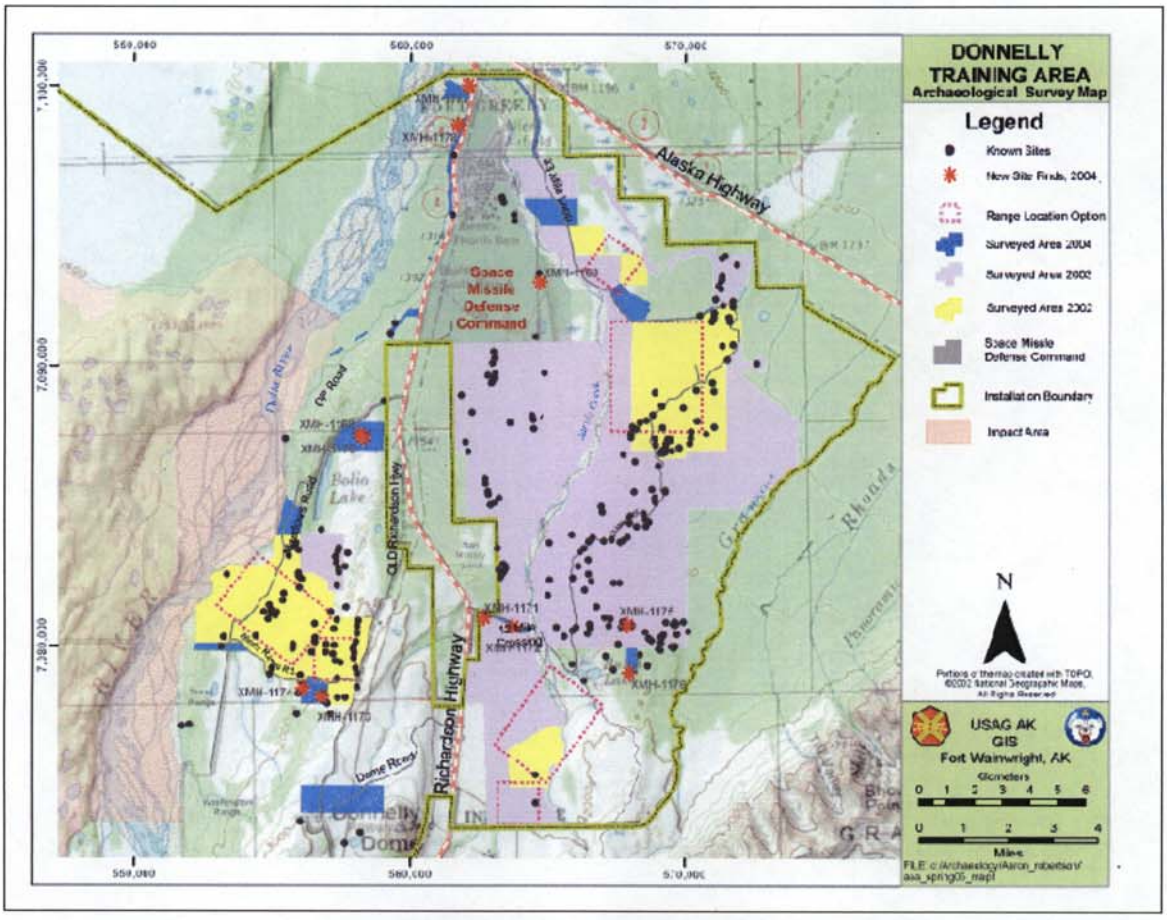

Figure 87. Area surveyed and location of newly located archaeological sites, DTA

XMH-01168
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01168 was discovered by Mark Hubbs of Teledyne Solutions, Inc. The site is located on the same narrow north/south running ridge as XMH-00871, which is 340m to the south. The site is on a knoll rising slightly above the rest of the ridge and Donnelly Dome is visible to the south. A gravel road has been cut through the western part of the ridge and the lone artifact encountered was found at the top of the cut bank made by this road. The closest water source is a small pond located 150m to the west and is located 200m to the east. There is approximately 10 percent surface visibility at the site and the surrounding area was burned in the 1999 forest fire. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Figure 88. Projectile point from site XMH-01168

Site XMH-01168 consists of one chert side notched projectile point located on the surface. The projectile point is made of dark gray chert and measures 37.9mm long, 24.3mm wide, and weighs approximately 7.2g. No other artifacts were observed. This projectile point was collected. Subsurface examinations have yet to be conducted.

Recommendations
Site XMH-01168 has been initially classified as an isolated find; however, the site could potentially contain more cultural material. This site lies outside the APE for any current projects, and therefore was not evaluated to determine eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. However, if further projects are proposed in the area the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility.

XMH-01169
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01169 is located on an east/west trending ridge overlooking . There is a 180° degree viewshed from the site and the Alaska Range is visible to the southwest. The closest water source to the site is located 50m to the east/northeast. There is also a small unnamed pond located 100m to the south. Surface visibility at the site is estimated to be 50 percent. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Figure 89. General view of site XMH-01169, facing east

Site XMH-01169 consists of more than 100 flakes found on the surface. The flakes consisted of chert and quartzite. A total of three density plots were placed on the site.

No shovel tests were excavated at the site and one flake was collected to determine its material type.

Recommendations
Site XMH-01169 has been initially classified as a large lithic scatter. This site lies outside the APE for any current project and therefore was not evaluated to determine eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. However, if further projects are proposed in the area, the site should be evaluated to determine eligibility.

XMH-01170
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01170 is located on a northwest/southeast trending ridge. The closest water source to the site is , located 20m to the northeast and a small, unnamed pond located 50m to the southwest. The view shed at the site is 300° and the Alaska Range is visible to the west. There is an estimated 25 percent surface visibility at the site. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Figure 90. General view of site XMH-01170, facing east

Site XMH-01170 consists of one basalt uniface discovered on the surface of the site. No shovel tests were excavated at the site and no density plots were calculated. The artifact was not collected.

Recommendations
Site XMH-01170 has been initially classified as an isolated find; however, the site could potentially contain more cultural material. This site lies outside the APE for any current project, and therefore was not evaluated to determine eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. However, if further projects are proposed in the area, the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility.

XMH-01173
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01173 is located on a bench just below a northwest/southeast trending ridge. The view shed is 180° and the Alaska Range is visible to the southwest. Several small, unnamed ponds are visible from the site. One is located 30m to the southwest, another is 50m to the south, a third is 60m to the north and a fourth is located 100m to the northeast. Surface visibility at the site is estimated at 90 percent. UTM coordinates

Figure 91. General view of site XMH-01173, facing east

for the site are:

Site XMH-01173 consists entirely of lithic debitage. Seven flakes of chert and rhyolite were found on the surface of the moraine. Three density plots were calculated at the site and no shovel tests were excavated at the site. No artifacts were collected.

Recommendations
Site XMH-01173 has initially been classified as a small lithic scatter that could potentially contain more cultural material. This site lies inside the boundaries of one of the three construction footprint alternatives for the proposed BAX project. It was not, however, evaluated at this time. If the site falls into the APE of the chosen firing fan alternative, the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP.

XMH-01174
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Figure 92. General view of site XMH-01174, facing south

Site XMH-01174 is located on an east/west trending finger ridge extending off of a more prominent north/south trending ridge. The view shed at the site is 180°. Donnelly Dome is visible to the southeast, the Alaska Range is visible to the southwest and Windy Ridge can be seen to the northeast. The nearest water sources are two unnamed kettle lakes. One is located 30m to the southeast and the other is 75m to the northeast. These two kettle lakes look as if they were connected into one larger lake at some point in time. Surface visibility at the site is approximately 90 percent. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Site XMH-01174 consists of one obsidian scraper found on the surface. The scraper is 40.66mm wide, 43.29mm long, 9.05mm thick, and weighs 18.68g. No other artifacts were located. No density plots were calculated and no shovel tests were excavated.

Figure 93. Obsidian scraper from site XMH-01174

Recommendations
Site XMH-01174 has initially been classified as an isolated find; however, the site could potentially contain more cultural material. This site lies inside the boundaries of one of the three construction footprint alternatives for the proposed BAX project. It was not, however, evaluated at this time. If the site falls into the APE of the chosen firing fan alternative, the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP.

XMH-01175
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01175 is located on a small hilltop. Site XMH-01115 is located 90m to the east on a larger ridgeline. Views from the site are obstructed to the east, but are open to the north to a large expanse of generally flat terrain. Other hills surround the site to the south and west and thus views are limited in these directions. No lakes are visible from the site, but a small (15m diameter) dry lake is located 50m to the west. The area has been burned by forest fires and there is 60-70 percent surface visibility on the hilltop. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Site XMH-01175 consists two artifacts: one gray chert biface and one light gray chert piece of shatter. The biface was found 4m to the west of the piece of shatter.

Recommendations
Site XMH-01175 has initially been classified as a small lithic scatter that could potentially contain more cultural material. This site lies inside the boundaries of one of the three firing fan alternatives for the proposed BAX project. It was not, however, evaluated at this time. If the site falls into the APE of the chosen firing fan alternative, the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP.

XMH-01176
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01176 is located on the southern end of a glacial moraine. The area of the moraine slopes to the south at approximately 3 percent. Donnelly Dome is visible to the southwest and the nearest water source is an unnamed pond 450m to the east. 1,100m to the west. Surface visibility at the site is approximately 30 percent. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Figure 94. General view of site XMH-01176, facing southwest

Site XMH-01176 consists entirely of lithic debitage. A total of six flakes were located, including one obsidian flake. No artifacts were collected and no shovel testing was conducted.

Recommendations
Site XMH-01176 has initially been classified as a small lithic scatter that could potentially contain more cultural material. This site lies inside the boundaries of one of the three firing fan alternatives for the proposed BAX project. It was not, however, evaluated at this time. If the site falls into the APE of the chosen firing fan alternative, the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP.

XMH-01177
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01177 is located on a low terrace approximately 1m above the . The Richardson Highway is to the east and a two-track gravel road connecting to runs just south of the site. The nearest water source is . No landmarks are visible due to tree cover. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Figure 95. General view of site XMH-01177, facing south

Site XMH-01177 consists of several hundred cans, bottles and other various pieces of historic debris. No density plots were calculated at the site and no shovel test pits were excavated at the site. A *Hills Bros. Coffee* can, three beer cans, a log cabin syrup can and a whiskey bottle were collected from the site for dating purposes. Dates on these artifacts place the top layer of the midden in the late 1930s to early 1940s. Artifacts at lower levels may be older.

Figure 96. Historic artifacts from site XMH-01177

Recommendations
Site XMH-01177 has been initially classified as a large historic can dump. This site lies outside the APE for any current project and therefore was not evaluated to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. However, if further projects are proposed in the area the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility.

XMH-01178
Latitude:
Longitude:
Determination: Not evaluated

Site XMH-01178 is located on a north/south trending bluff overlooking . The viewshed is estimated to be 180° and the Alaska Range can be seen to the southwest. No other landmarks are visible from the site. The nearest water source is located 30m to the west, at the bottom of the bluff. There is good ground cover at the site and thus no surface visibility. UTM coordinates for the site are:

Site XMH-01178 consists of four flakes found in the eroding bluff edge. No density plots were calculated at the site and no shovel test pits were excavated. The four flakes were collected because they were in danger of being washed away by the eroding soil.

Recommendations

Site XMH-01178 has been initially classified as a buried site. This site lies outside the APE for any current project and therefore was not evaluated to determine its eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. However, if further projects are proposed in the area the site should be evaluated to determine its eligibility.